Christian Education

Continuing the "American College Bulletin"

Vol. II April, 1919 No. 12

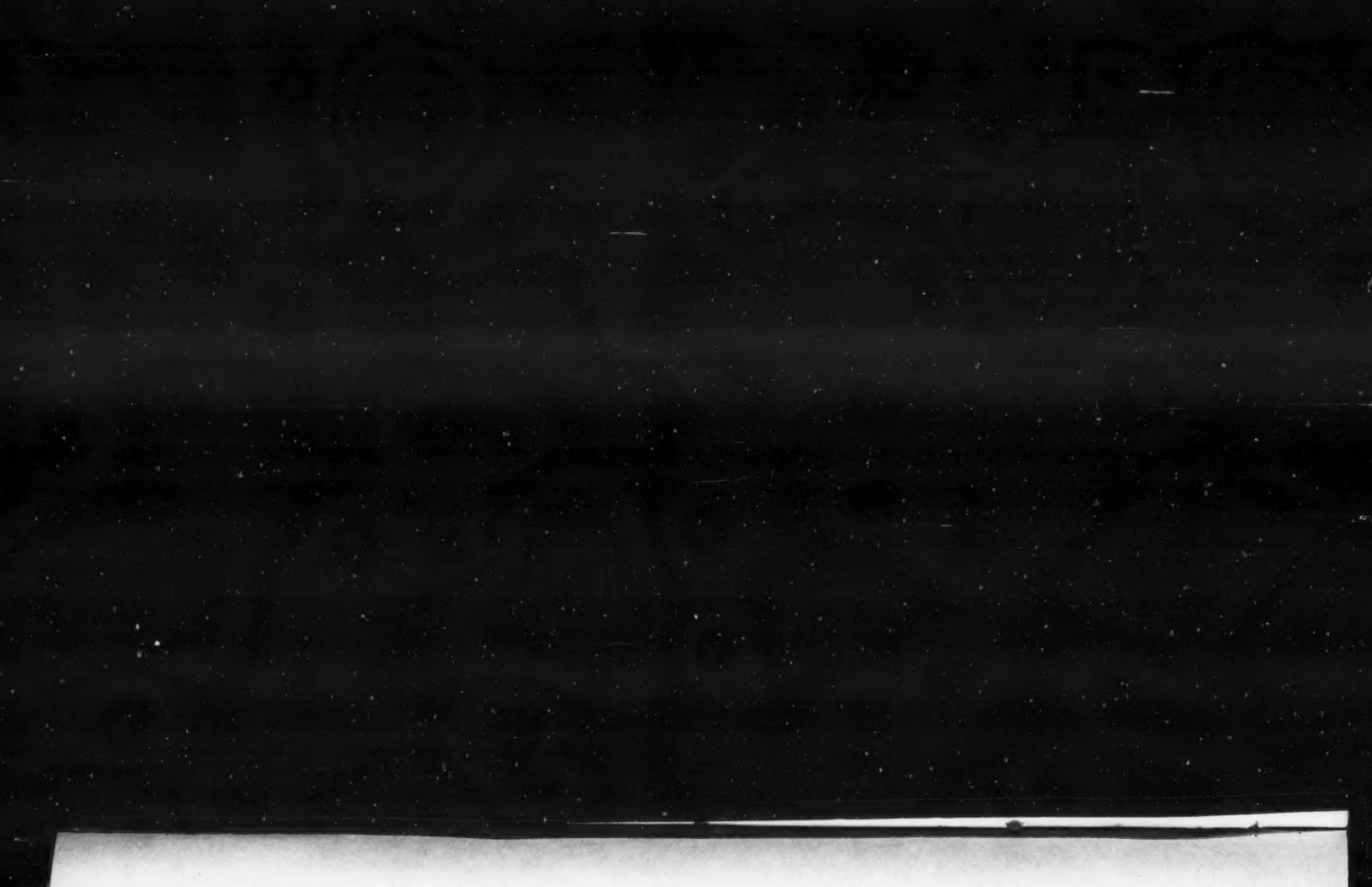
CHART BOOK

OF

Board Organization

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION continues the *American College Bulletin* which was entered as second-class matter October 29, 1917, at the Postoffice of Chicago, Illinois, under the Act of March 3d, 1879, and is published monthly, omitting August and September, by the Council of Church Boards of Education in the United States of America, 19 South La Salle Street, Chicago, Illinois. The subscription price is 50 cents per annum; ten or more copies 40 cents each.

(Acceptance for mailing at the special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3d, 1917, authorized on July 18, 1918.)



Christian Education

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VOLUME II

OCTOBER, 1918–JULY, 1919

Published monthly, omitting August and September, by

THE COUNCIL OF CHURCH BOARDS OF EDUCATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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The machinery of the church is in process of being overhauled. Much of the old system is going to the scrap-heap, new agencies are being created, and we are now in the transition period trying to co-ordinate the old and the new.

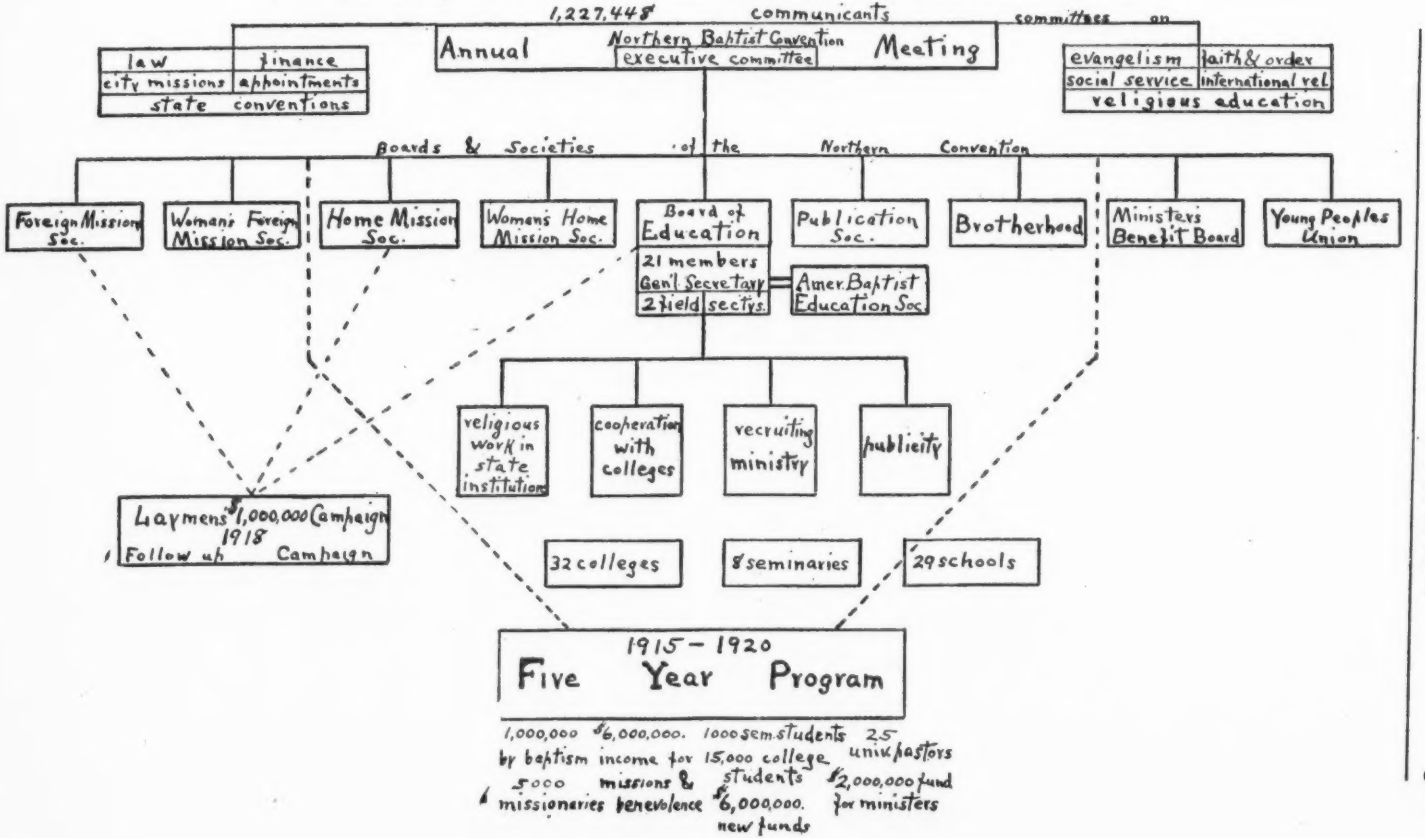
The reasons for these changes are obvious. Purely as a mechanical proposition, the work of a church board grows inevitably beyond the physical capacities of a single secretary and a gradual division of labor arises, with consequent changes in structure. The chart of the United Brethren is a fair example of the simpler board organization in smaller denominations; the Methodist and Presbyterian charts show greater complexity.

The tendency of men to think in larger terms and bigger programs has had its effect. Education is no longer conceived of as a field apart but has its vital relation to missions and the other activities of the church. Among the Congregational boards education is specifically recognized as fundamental to the work of all the others. The machinery of the church must develop with the growth of ideas.

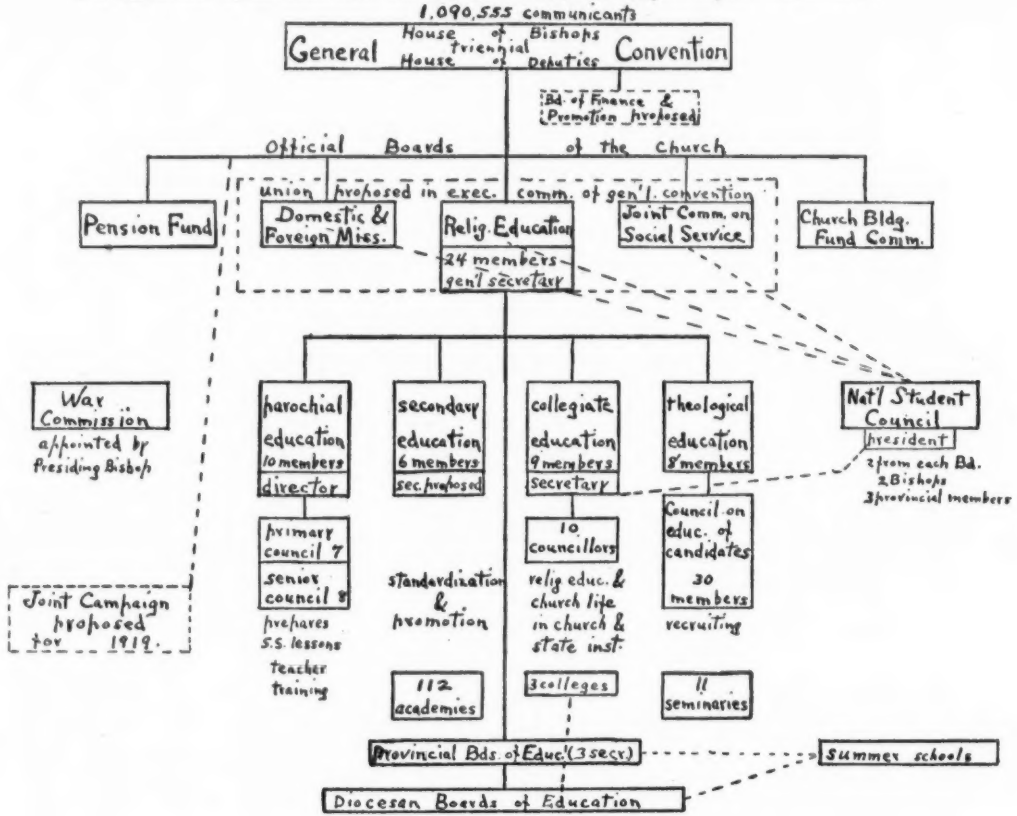
Finally, the application of modern promotional methods to church activities has resulted in great programs which have been stimulated by the war emergencies. Notable among these are the Men and Millions Movement, the Five-Year Program, the Centenary Campaign, and the New Era Movement. The organization for these drives, although constructed for temporary use, has its effect on the permanent structure of the denominations.

As a result of these pressures, new relationships are being developed and new machinery tried. These charts are presented, therefore, to illustrate the different stages in development of the boards of education of various denominations. It will be noted that the scope of the field and the degree of relationship to other church interests vary greatly but that there is also a fundamental similarity between boards of education which should make the organization of one suggestive and helpful to another.

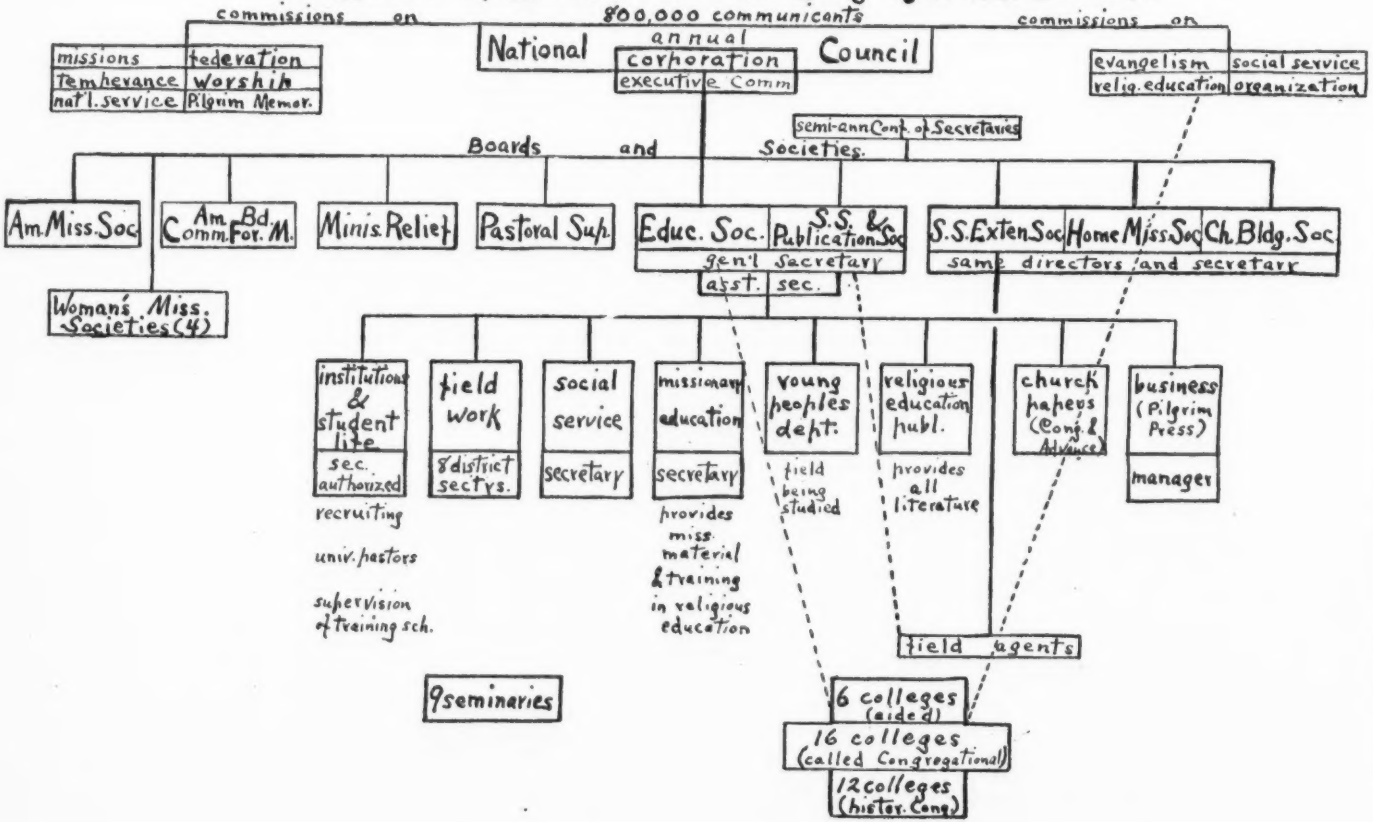
The Board of Education in the Northern Baptist Convention

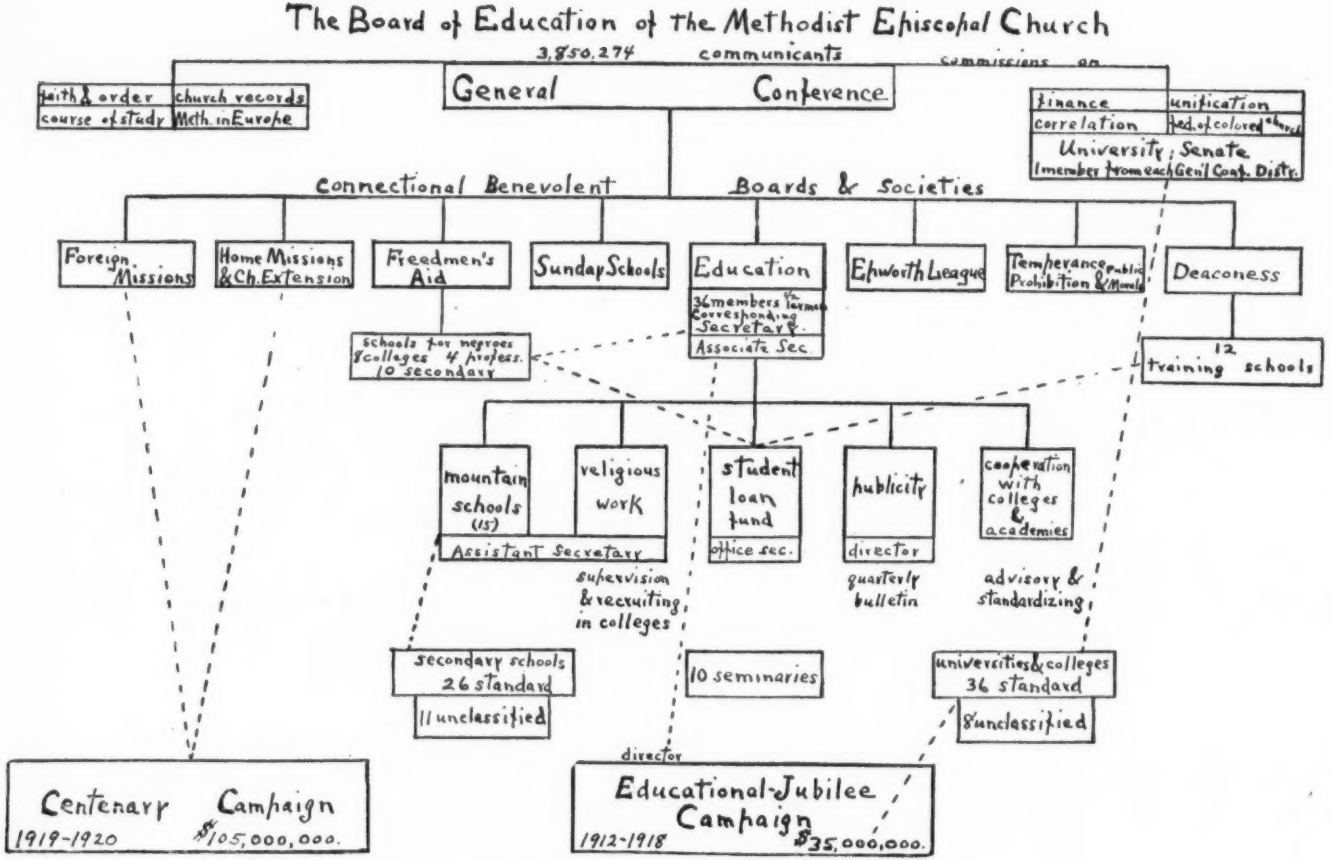


The Board of Education in the Protestant Episcopal Church.

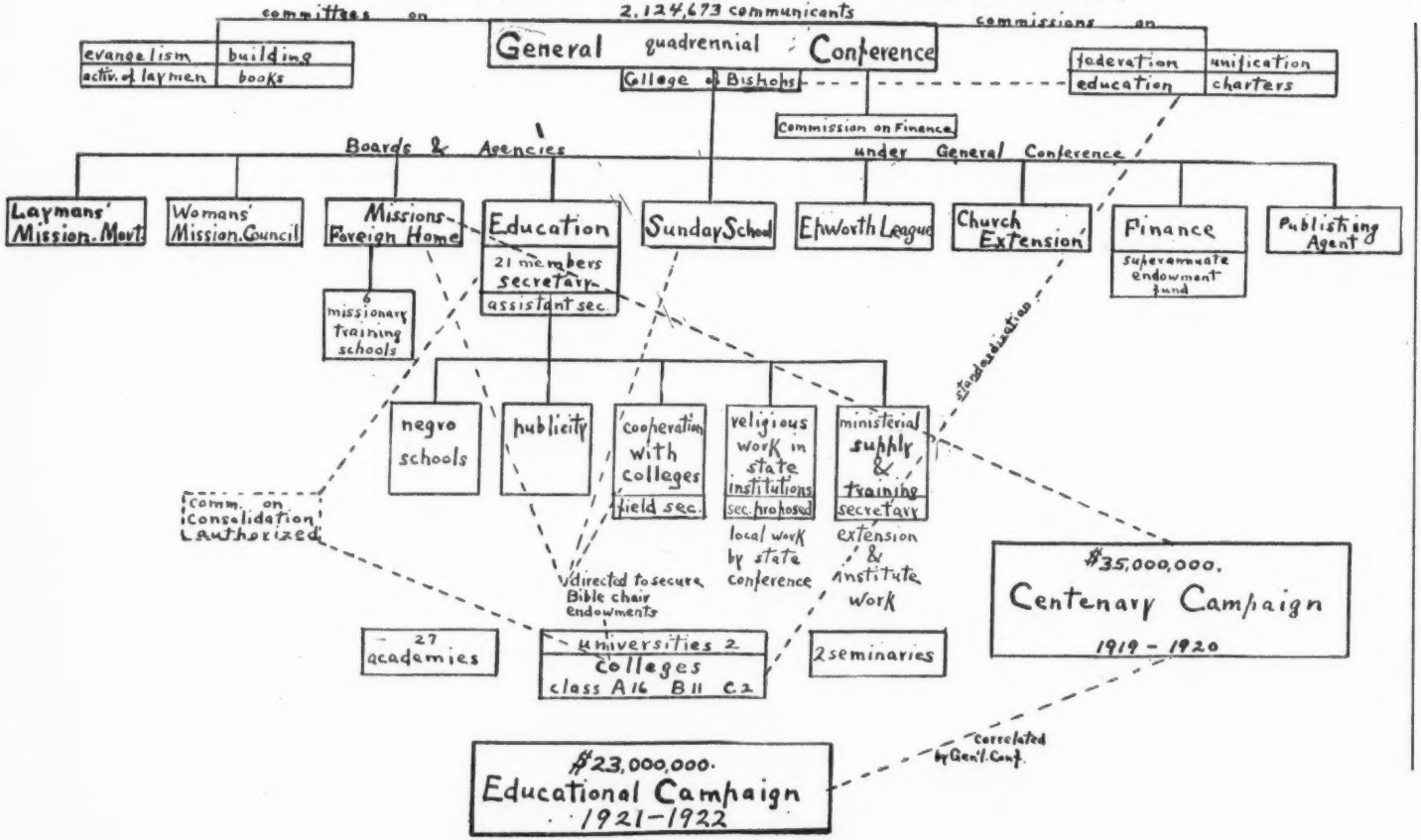


The Board of Education in the Congregational Churches

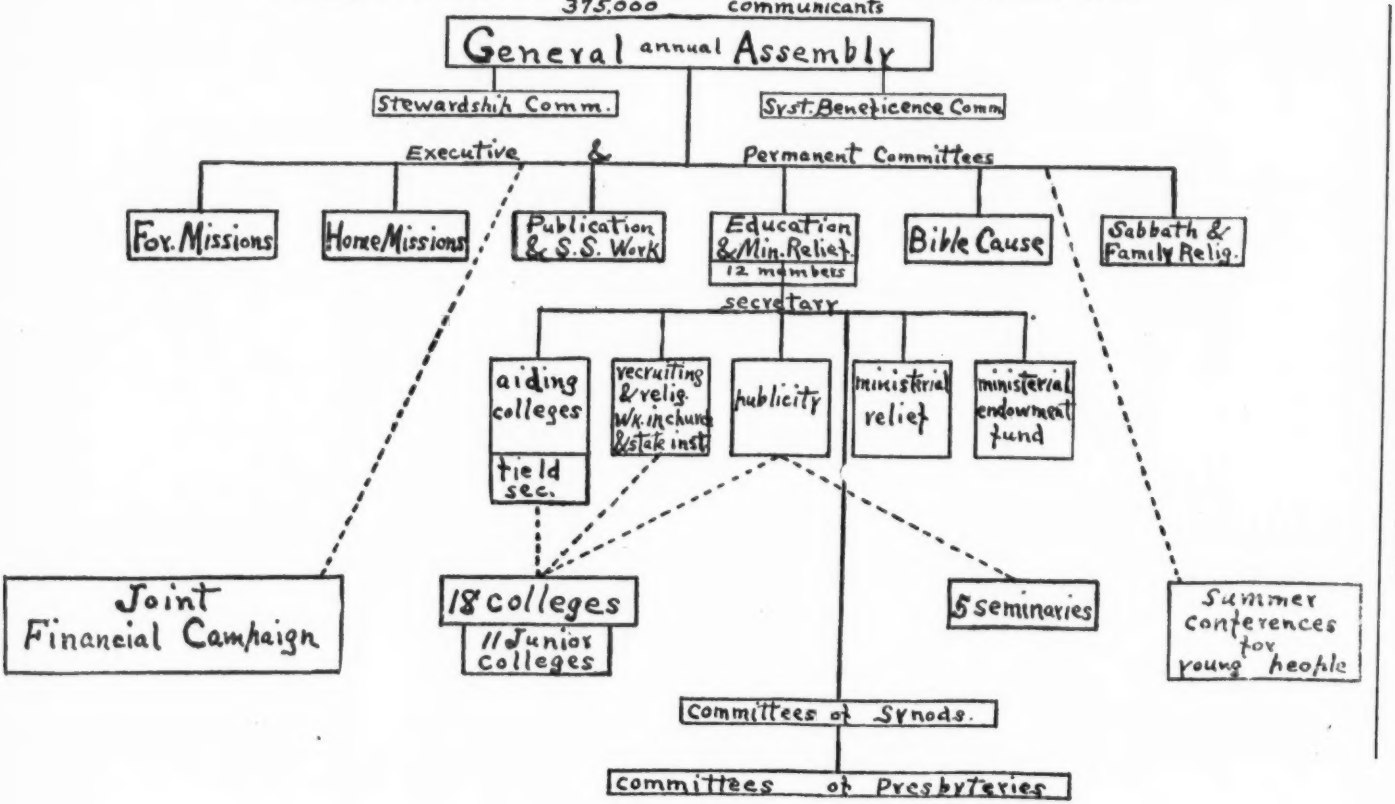



The Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church
3,850,274 communicants
General Conference
commissions on
faith & order
church records
course of study
Meth. in Europe
finance
unification
correlation
ed. of colored people
University Senate
1 member from each Gen'l Conf. Distr.
Connectional Benevolent Boards & Societies
Foreign Missions
Home Missions & Ch. Extension
Freedmen's Aid
Sunday Schools
Education
Epworth League
Temperance Public Prohibition & Morals
Deaconess
schools for negroes
8 colleges 4 profess.
10 secondary
36 members 4 ex-officio
Corresponding Secretary
Associate Sec.
12 training schools
mountain schools (15)
religious work
Assistant Secretary
student loan fund
office sec.
publicity
director
cooperation with colleges & academies
supervision & recruiting in colleges
quarterly bulletin
advisory & standardizing
secondary schools
26 standard
11 unclassified
10 seminaries
universities & colleges
36 standard
8 unclassified
director
Centenary Campaign
1919-1920
$105,000,000.
Educational-Jubilee Campaign
1912-1918
$35,000,000.

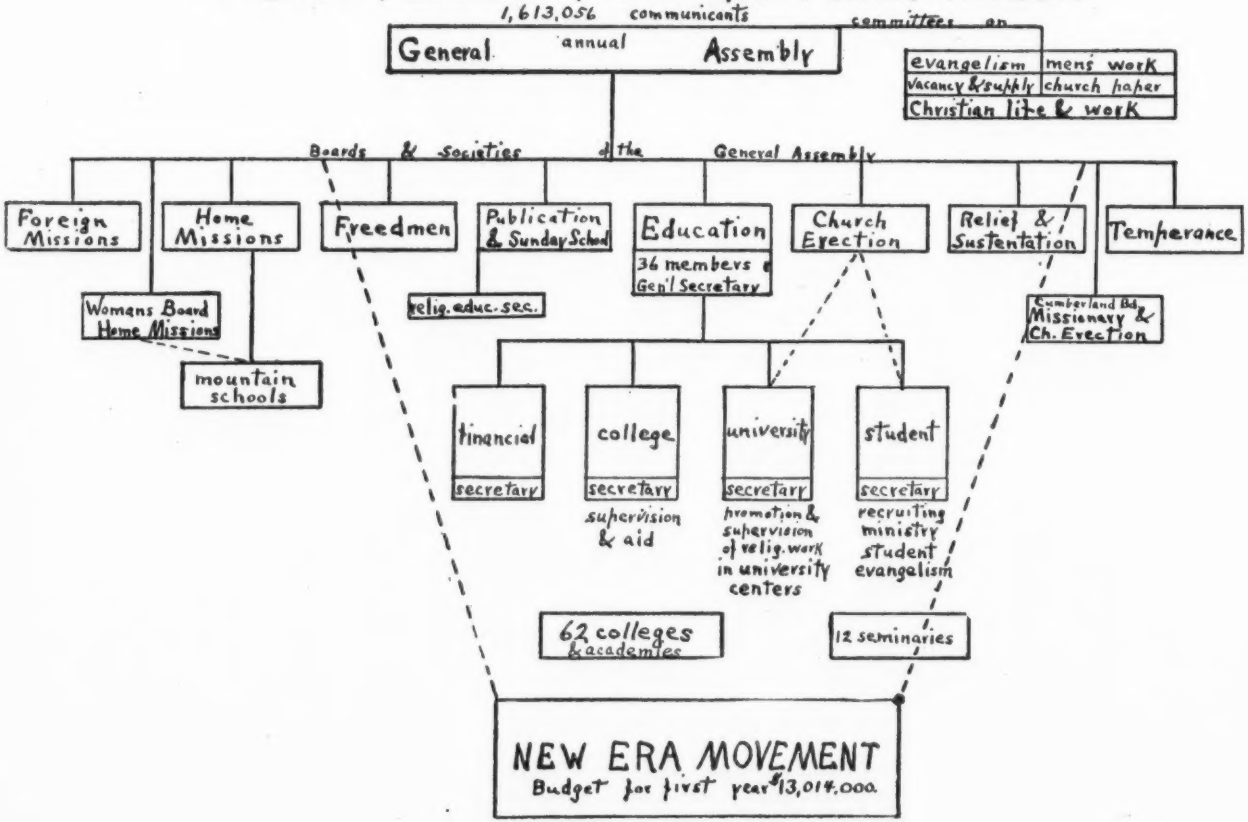
The Board of Education of the Methodist Church South



The Board of Education in the Presbyterian Church U.S.



The Board of Education of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.



Analysis of the Charts

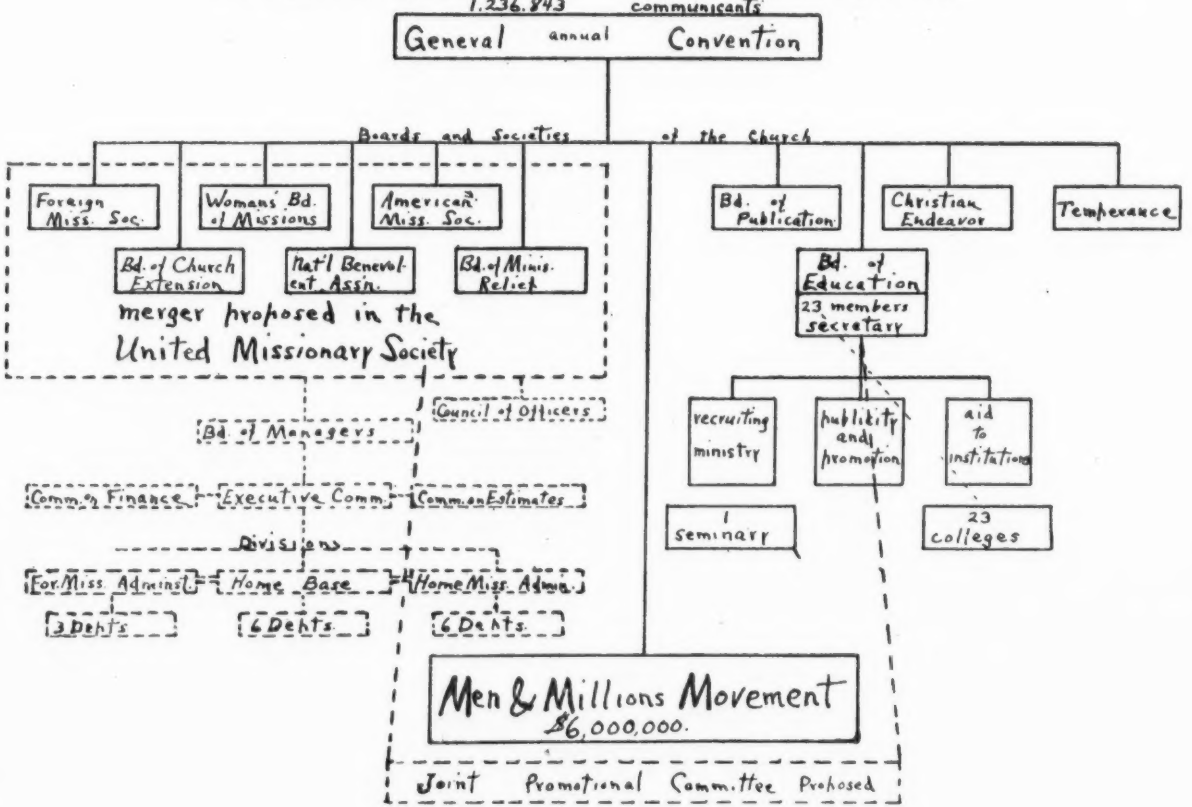
No effort has been made to visualize all the boards of education, as many of them are simple in structure and some are being reconstructed. The educational machinery of the combined Lutheran churches has not yet been given definite form.

It will be noted that most education societies cover only a part of the field of Christian education. The most complete organization is found in the Congregational and Episcopal churches. In other denominations the field is divided up and there is little evidence of correlation. Usually no relationship is apparent between the Sabbath school and the board of education. Frequently training and mission schools are conducted independently of the educational system of the church. There is little contact between theological seminaries and education boards and in many cases the fundamental relation to the colleges is obscure.

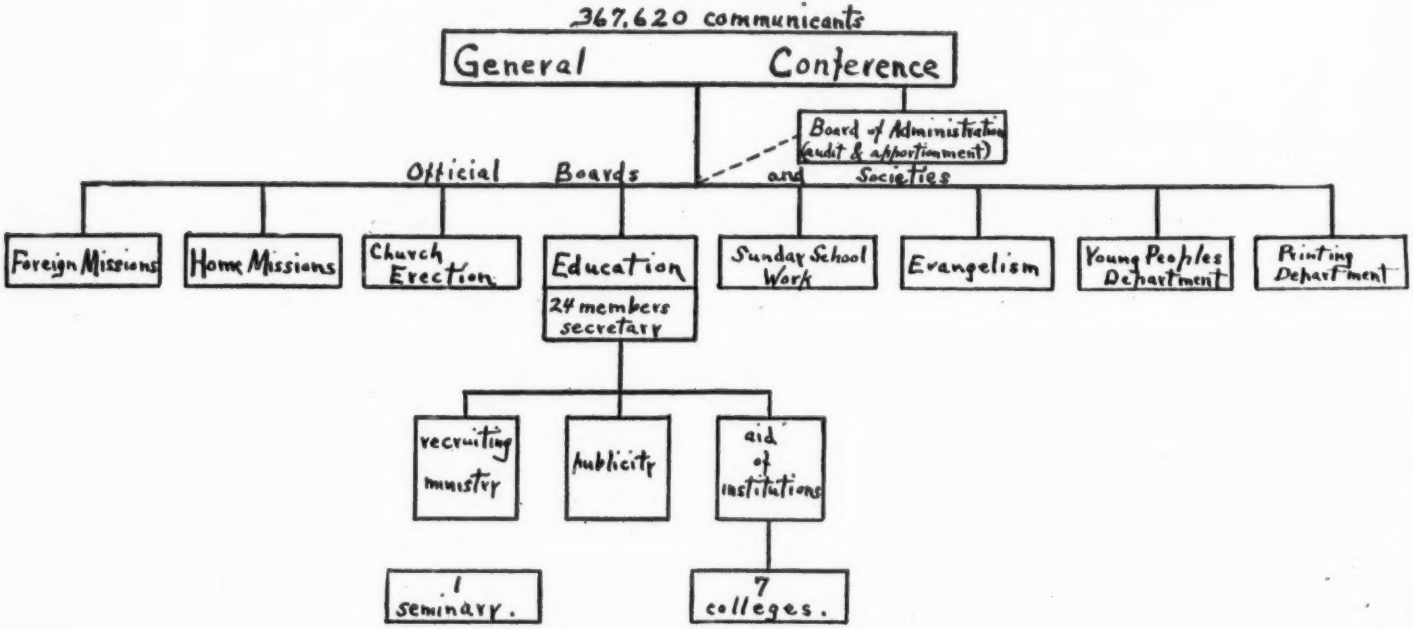
On the other hand, much progress is being made in co-operation between boards in the same denomination. In many campaigns this has assumed only a temporary form, but there are also instances of actual consolidation. A type of structure is evolving which is more than an aggregate of separate boards. In the Episcopal church, for example, the Missions, Social Service, and Education societies now have a joint committee actively promoting the plan for an Executive Board for the entire communion. An important step of this character, also, is indicated in the chart of the Disciples church. The Constitution of the merger proposed in that group makes the following provision for correlation with the Board of Education: "The United Christian Missionary Society, the Board of Education and such other organizations as may be mutually agreed upon, shall select a general headquarters, and shall create a promotional committee which shall have charge of campaigns for the united budget, bequests, annuities and other promotional activities."

Detailed analysis of the organization and field of boards of education may be found in Volume II, No. 10, of the American College Bulletin. It should be understood that the charts presented here concern only the structure and relations within the respective denominations. There are many working connections between denominations in the field of education to be considered separately in a later issue.

The Board of Education in the Disciples Church.



The Board of Education in the United Brethren Church



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